

OUR COMMUNITY

Invested in You

SPRING / SUMMER 2021



DIAMOND 6700

'The final piece in the BBP jigsaw' is now being marketed



Gold winner: International Green Apple Awards 2018 & 2019
Gold Cycling Score



Birmingham
Business Park

Managed by



Welcome to your spring 2021 'Our Community' magazine. There is good news on the horizon and we are very much looking forward to welcoming many of you back to the park over the coming months as lockdowns begin to ease away and we return to 'normality'.

It is great to see so many of our occupiers have been active over the winter and into 2021,

as you will read from the many articles within... enjoy!



Jo Richmond,
Property
Manager,
Workman LLP



BIRMINGHAM BUSINESS PARK:
CYCLING SCORE GOLD



Our Community magazine is produced for Birmingham Business Park by Edwin Ellis Creative Media
www.edwinelliscreativemedia.com

NEWS & EVENTS

WALK THIS WAY

Birmingham Business Park has introduced new 'Net Walking' sessions.

For many, it's been a year of working from home. This is a great way to safely reconnect with

your colleagues at BBP.

The sessions will be organised on behalf of BBP and led by health and wellbeing mentor, Julia Mitchell (www.yourhealthysteps.co.uk)

Julia (pictured right) will lead this lunchtime walk with an opportunity for you to meet colleagues from BBP. Not only is it a great opportunity to socialise but spending time in green and blue spaces (ecopsychology) has been shown to have a positive effect on wellbeing.

The first session will take place at 12.30pm on Thursday 17th June, meeting at the Park Management offices. Booking is essential so please contact Julia on 07795 498949 or email julia.mitchell78@outlook.com to reserve your place.



ONLINE MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID TRAINING 10am-1pm on 20th, 21st, 24th & 25th May

A blended learning programme, providing participants with the skills to identify and support mental health in the workplace. Reduced price – £249 per person using the code '**BBP1**' for companies within BBP. Participants must be able to attend all four sessions.

Please contact Lorraine: lorraine@waystoflourish.com or call 07538 275113

AGE UK CAPTAIN TOM CHALLENGE

To celebrate Captain Sir Tom Moore's amazing achievements – raising £38.9 million for the NHS Covid-19 appeal – and mark what would have been his 101st birthday, everyone is invited to take part in a fundraising challenge for Age UK Solihull.

Between Friday 30th April and Monday 3rd May, follow in Captain Tom's footsteps and mark what would have been his 101st birthday by setting a '100' themed challenge. This could be anything from walking 100 metres to baking 100 cakes, scoring 100 goals, cycling 100 miles, writing a 100-word poem or a 100 themed challenge of their own.

For more details visit <https://captaintom100.virginmoneygiving.com/giving/captaintom100/> and select 'Age UK Solihull'.



INTRODUCING...

Name: Fenella Parish

Job Title: Assistant Management Surveyor, Workman LLP

What interests you about working at Birmingham Business Park?

I really like the community feel that the park provides and I enjoy the team work.



I am passionate about updating and modernising properties and sites and feel like this role requires a lot of thought and innovation which I find exciting, interesting, and fun!

I'm only young and I will hopefully be working for Workman for a long time and look forward to watching Birmingham Business Park grow and develop.

Visiting BBP enabled me to see and feel for myself the communal environment that has been created over the past few years and I really was impressed with the overall feel of the park.

Not only does the park feel friendly and well maintained, it is also aesthetically pleasing. I was amazed at the range of activities, from outdoor gym apparatus to ping pong tables and so on. There are also food stalls offering a diversity of menus, which is a lovely idea. It is clear the park considers its clients with everything they do.

I enjoyed my visit and am looking forward to returning more frequently when it is safe to do so.

NEWS IN BRIEF



BBP WELCOMES STRIKING NEW ENTRANCE SIGN

As part of the preparations for the arrival of the future HS2 Interchange Station, construction to remodel and improve the local road network is progressing well. HS2 is transforming Northway Island into a new T-junction, which will form part of the remodelled network. To make way for the future T-junction, BBP waved goodbye to its existing entrance sign off Northway Island in early February 2021. During its 30-year life, the sign had welcomed tens of thousands of employees and countless esteemed guests to the park.

The improvements being incorporated into the new road network will make our journeys to and from BBP smoother, safer and quicker. To mark the entrance to the park, a striking new 12-metre sign, complete with landscaping, has been installed.

If you haven't been to the park in a while, keep your eye out for the new entrance sign on your return. You'll find it along the B4438!

WELL DONE, EMMA!

Receptionist completes Solihull College diploma



New Birmingham Business Park receptionist Emma Walk has topped up her professional skills with a customer services diploma.

Emma completed an NCFE Level 2 Certificate in Principles of Customer Service, administered by Solihull College.

Her first few months in her new role were split between home working and brief spells at the Park Management Offices due to the impact of COVID-19.

Emma got to grips with her new job remotely and carried out admin duties from home before a return to the office.

"It's great to be in the office meeting and greeting and getting to know BBP businesses," explains Emma. "That is my favourite part of the job."

Erica Spink, Park Manager, said: "All of the team at BBP are really pleased that Emma has gained her customer service certificate – it's great to see a valued member of our team achieve this in what has been a challenging year.

"This qualification will be of great benefit to Emma in her role at BBP. As more employees return to work over the coming months, she will be able to put these new skills into practice in her role as receptionist – meeting and greeting our visitors to the park and assisting our valued occupiers."



PARK HYGIENE COMPANY'S 10% SAVING FOR OCCUPIERS

Business Park-based Health and Hygiene Products Ltd is offering fellow BBP occupiers 10% off a range of products and services to support a safe return to the workspace. Health and Hygiene Products can supply lateral flow tests, sanitiser, masks, gloves, anti-virucidal cleaner, hand towels, toilet rolls, cleaning products and much more.

The company also provides the Hygienia Touch cleaning service that provides six months protection for sites and returning staff.

It is specifically designed to help companies remain ahead of the COVID-19 pandemic by making surfaces impervious to bacteria and viruses. Hygienia Touch is presented in the form of a nanotechnology enabled / anti-pathogen barrier coating.

- To take advantage of the 10% offer visit healthandhygieneproducts.com and use voucher code **AKP9YV2B** (until 31.05.2021).
- Anyone wanting to set-up a credit account following this purchase then please contact orders@healthandhygieneproducts.com

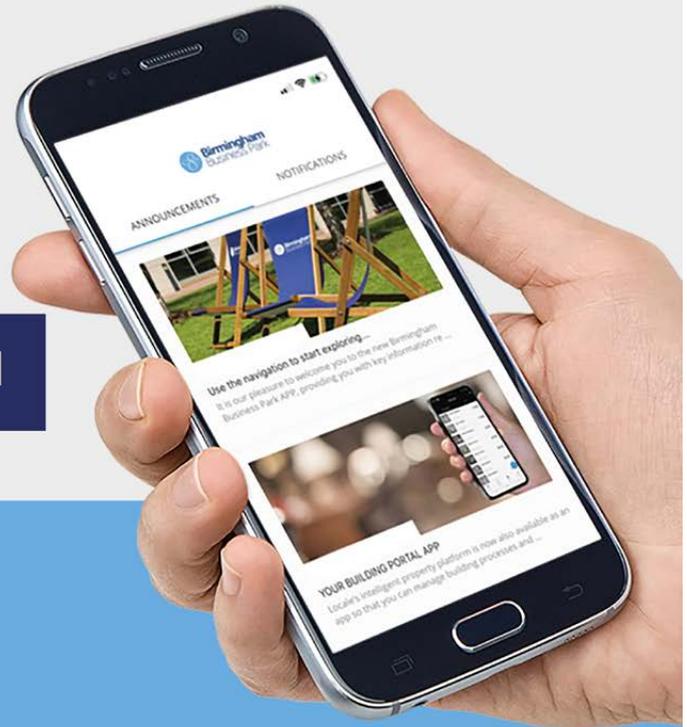


86 Easter Eggs were donated to Age UK Solihull from BBP occupiers, stakeholders and Marston Green Junior School.

Hello **Welcome to** **your new BBPAPP**

In order to download the
BBP APP please register by
inputting the following address into
your web browser

www.bbportal.co.uk/home/login/1



Why Register?



An exclusive online community for you to keep up to date with events, giveaways, news, travel and information of what is happening on and around the Park

Download your new **BBPAPP** today ...

BConnected

Scan the QR code, log on to
www.bbportal.co.uk,
log in with your username
and password then enjoy the
Birmingham Business Park App



Collect your free Plant It Paper from outside the Park Management Office.
Download the BBP APP and watch your Plant It Paper grow and tweet your flowers to
[@birmingham_bp](https://twitter.com/birmingham_bp)

NEW DEVELOPMENT NEWS

DIAMOND – 6700: THE FINAL PIECE OF THE BBP JIGSAW

Last undeveloped six-acre plot now being marketed as an exciting opportunity for a new occupier



Birmingham Business Park has traditionally been viewed as an office location, although over the years it has provided a home for a wider selection of users, in particular, engineering, research and development businesses, accounting for 44% of the land developed to date.

In 1994, Fujitsu constructed a purpose built 116,000 sq ft facility on 10 acres at the entrance to the Park for its telecommunication services and technology and data storage.

Rolls Royce identified the Park as a location for its new aero engine development and in 2017 bought 24 acres to build a new state-of-the-art 290,000 sq ft facility. Changan, China's third largest car manufacturer, bought Parkside and developed its own research and development campus in 2016.

Sulzer Rotating Equipment Services recently moved into a customised 80,000 sq ft engineering facility at the entrance to the Park. In a recent testimonial, Chris Powles, Head of RES UK, said: "Sulzer Rotating Equipment Services relocated their 110 year electromechanical rotating machinery business from Birmingham city centre to a purpose built state of the art workshop and headquarters during Autumn 2020.

"Since settling in to our new home, we have



Left: The BBP landscape wins praise from occupiers who enjoy its outdoor spaces

found Birmingham Business Park to be superbly positioned with great links to the motorway network, adjacent hotels, Birmingham Exhibition Centre, Birmingham International Airport and the prospect of the forthcoming HS2 Interchange, all of which making it an ideal location for our global business.

"The park is beautifully landscaped, secure and very well managed and the amenities for employees are first class. With regular health and wellbeing programmes, outdoor cinema and street food carts there is plenty on offer with the benefit of well-maintained gardens and woodland walks for our employees to enjoy.

"The park management team lead by Liz Allister have been on hand to guide us through our move and we have found them to be very

professional and responsive to all of our needs. We look forward to being an active part of the Birmingham Business Park community for many years to come."

The last undeveloped six-acre plot is now being marketed by the Park's majority owner, the BlackRock UK Property Fund, as an opportunity for further occupiers that could benefit from the unique amenity and experience the Park offers to employees.

While marketing Granite 40, the speculative industrial development completed at the end of last year, significant interest has been expressed by engineering, research and development businesses and it is hoped this final piece of the jigsaw will attract some of these occupiers.



'THE PARK IS BEAUTIFULLY LANDSCAPED, SECURE AND VERY WELL MANAGED AND THE AMENITIES FOR EMPLOYEES ARE FIRST CLASS'

CYCLING AT BIRMINGHAM BUSINESS PARK

E-BIKES COMING SOON!

Birmingham Business Park is proud to hold a Cycling Score Gold accreditation for our work promoting cycling at BBP.

The park has bike racks, maintenance facilities, led bike rides, pool bikes and will soon be introducing free-to-use e-bikes during spring 2021.

The e-bikes will offer a great, environmentally-friendly way of getting around the park during the summer months.

More details for the e-bikes will be shared soon. Please contact the Park Management Office – reception@birminghambusinesspark.co.uk for details on how to loan the bikes.



Birmingham Business Park
Invested in You

Birmingham Business Park Wellbeing Sustainability

ALL OUR BUKPF PLOTS AND CORE ESTATE HAVE BIKE RACKS

WE HAVE POOL BIKES AND E BIKES

WE ARE ACCREDITED WITH A 'GOLD' CYCLING SCORE

GREEN APPLE GOLD AWARD-WINNING COMMUNITY CYCLING CLUB

FREE BI ANNUAL OR BIKE MAINTENANCE CHECK AND BIKE REPAIR STATION

LED BIKE RIDES
TO INTERNATIONAL TRAIN STATION ON SHARED FOOTPATH

SUPPORT WITH ACTIVE TRAVEL PLANS FOR EXISTING AND NEW OCCUPIERS VIA SOLIHULL COUNCIL

ACTIVE TRAVEL TEAM

THREE ROAD CYCLING RACES PER YEAR IN CONJUNCTION WITH UK BRITISH CYCLING

www.birminghambusinesspark.co.uk
For any queries please contact reception@birminghambusinesspark.co.uk

[birminghambusinesspark](https://www.facebook.com/birminghambusinesspark)
[Birmingham Business Park](https://www.linkedin.com/company/birmingham-business-park)
[@birmingham_bp](https://twitter.com/birmingham_bp)

LOCAL COMMUNITY NEWS



Left: St Anne's pupils, twins Alfie and Annabelle, alongside Lisa Bathurst, Year 1 Teacher and new Eco Co-ordinator following on from Miss Driver and Mr Slattery, school Site Manager and member of the Health & Safety Team



Alfie and Annabelle happily undertook a litter-pick to test out the new equipment

SCHOOL'S ECO STARS GIVEN £100 OF GARDEN VOUCHERS



Birmingham Business Park 'dug deep' to provide a local school with £100 of gardening vouchers as part of the BBP commitment to sustainability projects in the area.

St Anne's Catholic Primary School in Chelmsley Wood was given the vouchers following the successful completion of the school's Level 1 Eco Sustainability Award for the 2019-20 academic year.

Schoolchildren were tasked with completing new projects linked to the environment as part of the programme, which was led by Sinead Driver, school ECO Leader with support from Sarah Lardner, Engagement Officer on

Pupils at St Anne's Catholic Primary rewarded for their care for community

the Sustainability Team at Solihull Council.

Following several meetings and communication between the school's ECO Leaders and pupils, the children held a vote on how best to spend the vouchers. Following a successful litter picking campaign, the children felt that better, more robust litter pickers with durable rings to hold waste bags would be the best

choice and help to continue and improve the good work already put in by the ECO Team.

Daniel Linehan, deputy head teacher at St Anne's, said: "Despite the difficult circumstances linked to Covid-19, plans have been put in place to undertake a large scale litter pick

'WE HOPE TO CONTINUE WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH BBP THROUGH SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES'

and continue the foundations laid in the previous year from Miss Driver.

"We would like to thank Birmingham

Business Park for their fantastic support in sponsoring the award and hope to continue working in partnership with them through sustainability initiatives in the near future."

OCCUPIER NEWS

MEET THE FATBERG FIGHTERS!

BBP-based team travelling the country to help manage waste



Fatberg fighters ECAS (Environmental Compliance and Services) moved into Birmingham Business Park in October 2019 to accommodate their growing team. Since then, and despite the pandemic, they've continued to help prevent thousands of tonnes of fats, oils, and grease (known as FOG in the industry) from entering sewers across the UK.

ECAS work with food businesses to make sure they dispose of their FOG and food waste the right way. From big food chains, to smaller independents. They also educate residential communities on what should and shouldn't go down sinks and toilets to prevent fatbergs.

A fatberg is a solid mass in a sewer. It's usually made up of congealed grease and non-biodegradable sanitary items like wet wipes. Fatbergs often make the headlines because



they block the wastewater network, sometimes leading to sewer floods and environmental pollution. Blockages also cost the water industry millions of pounds each year to sort out.

Philip Soden, managing director of ECAS, said: "An average food takeaway can produce around 1,500-2,500 litres of FOG each year. If that's allowed to escape down plugholes or drains, the consequences can be devastating for communities and the environment.

"We work with commercial kitchens to make sure their everyday practices reduce how much FOG and food waste

Main picture: William Maginn, Luke Mosley, Michael Smaylen and Philip Soden

Above: Julie Phillips and Christina Pimenta

they discharge into the sewers. Things like using a sink strainer to catch food debris, or dry wiping dirty pots into a bin instead of rinsing them under a tap. We also recommend what grease trapping equipment is needed."

ECAS does this work on behalf of UK water companies. Plus, overseas utility companies. They also have a commercial division that works with landlords who manage properties like shopping centres, business parks, and large office and retail parks – providing a range of environmental and safety audits, including: kitchen ventilation, asbestos, legionella and noise control services.

Like all organisations, ECAS has been affected by the coronavirus pandemic. Especially as many food outlets haven't been trading. When the first lockdown happened, the

ECAS environmental inspectors were working virtually with food businesses. They were also using their social channels to educate home owners about the consequences of flushing wipes amidst toilet roll shortages. But now, many of the team have key worker status, and can make socially distanced visits to commercial kitchens.

Philip added: "Our people travel the length and breadth of the UK and Europe. So, BBP is such a great base for us. And of course, because we're environmental enthusiasts, we also like the green spaces it offers. As restrictions ease, it'll be great to meet even more of the BBP tenants and take better advantage of what the community has to offer."

■ For more information, please visit www.ecasworld.com or follow ECAS on Twitter @ECAS_World

SULZER: A GREAT START TO 2021

Stunning new facility now fully operational



Sulzer has made a strong start to life at their new state-of-the-art service centre on Birmingham Business Park.

There have been several significant orders for the high voltage coil business, together with an array motor and generator projects. The facility is now fully operational, with all infrastructure, plant and machinery installed and commissioned.

The first few weeks of the year has seen multiple sets of high voltage coils completed and shipped to several international and domestic customers. The first turbo rotor arrived into the service centre, which specialises in the repairs and overhauls of high voltage motors and generators.

A key feature of the state-of-the-art facility is the high-speed balancing pit, which allows Sulzer to offer balancing services to turbo rotors up to fifty tons. Following the relocation of the plant and machinery from the previous facility to the new site, Sulzer has now further upgraded the machine shop capabilities

through the addition state of the art CNC machines. Outside of the service centre, the field service engineers have been involved in a major hydrogenator refurbishment, managed out of Birmingham.

Chris Powles, Head of RES UK, said: "I'm pleased to say that we've made a solid start to life in our new service centre, with a number of excellent projects well underway coupled with a healthy pipeline of future prospects.

"Despite the difficulties around the pandemic, we have been able to welcome several of our key customers from critical industries into the new service centre and have re-established relationships with previously lapsed customers."

Plans for an official opening of the Birmingham service centre were placed on hold due to the pandemic. However, as the UK begins the journey towards lifting lockdown measures plans for the opening ceremony will reconvene. More details will follow in the coming months.



OCCUPIER NEWS



Picture inside the Quadi7ent offices taken before coronavirus lockdown

QUADI7ENT SUPPORTING SAFE RETURN TO THE WORKPLACE

 Quadi7ent has been a member of Birmingham Business Park for 20 years, and as an international company we love its ideal location with Birmingham Airport, multiple motorways and railway stations close by.

Like many businesses, at the start of this pandemic Quadi7ent had to adjust quickly to working from home. Over a year later we are eager to get back to BBP for face-to-face meetings, water-cooler chats and for some employees – a bit of peace and quiet!

Quadi7ent are here to support businesses within BBP and beyond with their return-to-office strategy with a range of digital solutions that help to improve efficiency,

Brennan Standell, Commercial Director for Parcel Locker Solutions, UK and Ireland, reflects on the company's return-to-office strategy

safeguard your staff and increase employee satisfaction. We can help your business processes to work for all your employees – giving office and remote workers equal ability to send mail and access documents from anywhere. And our smart parcel lockers can act as a hub, removing 100% of manual interactions where physical

items are handed between staff.

Fluctuating numbers of staff and contrasting schedules can make it difficult to fulfil the handover of high-value items interdepartmentally such as laptops or sensitive documents. By creating a hub to deliver into, this keeps items secure until they are ready to be collected and eliminates physical contact.

Quadi7ent parcel lockers also help to reduce operational costs and time spent managing packages by mailroom or reception staff. With businesses increasingly moving from paper to digital communications, you would think that the workload for mail staff was decreasing. However, the decline in mail has been more

than matched by the growth in parcel delivery. In fact, Royal Mail estimated parcel volumes increased by 31% last year with this number expected to grow.

Many employees have online purchases delivered to the office with a view that mailroom or reception staff will take responsibility for it. However, these staff do not always have the infrastructure required to securely process, store and distribute the volume they are receiving or can expect to receive once normality returns. The incidence of package loss and theft is only increasing with the number of parcel deliveries.

The parcel lockers can be used by couriers to drop off and collect items such as online orders, dry-cleaning and food deliveries, instantly notifying the recipient to collect at their convenience. This takes the burden off mailroom staff by reducing the risk of loss or theft and eliminating the lengthy process of receiving, logging, storing, tracking and distributing packages.

How do parcel lockers work? The recipient receives an electronic notification when their item is placed into a locker and with it, a PIN/barcode that they use to access and retrieve their goods. Until the employee collects their item it is kept secure.

■ To find out more about Quadi7ent solutions or recommendations for your return-to-work strategy, visit www.quadi7ent.com

£18,000 GRANTS FOR STAFF TRAINING

Open Study College working with Council to support local skills drive



 Birmingham Business Park-based Open Study College is encouraging eligible Midlands businesses to apply for a grant of up to £18,000, for staff training to upskill and develop their workforce.

As a selected supplier, distance learning provider Open Study College is working in partnership with Birmingham City Council on its Supplier Skills Programme, which offers funding from £500 to a maximum of £18,000 per SME, of which 50% will be funded by the SME and 50% by the European Social Fund grant. The scheme covers a wide range of courses from basic to level 7, including project management, HR,

finance, leadership and management as well as childcare, A Levels and GCSEs.

As a long-established distance learning college, Open Study College is able to provide employees with the skills and qualifications they need without the impact on their working day of requiring to attend a physical college. The flexibility that the courses offer allows learners to complete their studies at their own pace and in line with Covid guidelines.

■ **To find out more about the criteria and to register your interest, visit <https://www.openstudycollege.com/supplier-skills-programme>**



NEW TECH COURSES DESIGNED FOR CHILDREN

Open Study College has launched a range of new tech-focussed online courses specifically designed for children aged nine to 17.

Open Study College's new courses cover topics such as game design, coding, digital design and music production. From engaging starter courses to get younger children aged 9-12 to create and make, to senior courses for the more advanced from 13-17, the courses aim to set children up with invaluable skills for their future careers, as well creating a portfolio of project work they can use in support of a university application.

The courses are studied at a child's own pace, over a five-week period, with live tutor support and group sessions via Zoom, alongside forums from experts in tech.

Head of Education and Development, Robbie Bryant, commented: "We're so excited to deliver a range of brilliant courses to challenge and improve young minds for the first time.

"These courses can support school subjects like IT or computer science, or simply be a way to pass the time and learn more about a hobby.

"Although they are not curriculum-based, the courses are creative and engaging and will build upon vital skills needed for confidence building and spark creativity.

"We're hoping that by studying a course with us it could help propel a child's hobby into a future career."

■ **To find out more visit www.openstudycollege.com/courses-for-kids**

OCCUPIER NEWS

MINEBEA INTEC EXPANDS UK MANUFACTURING OPERATIONS

Surge in demand from food, pharma and chemical industries

 Weighing and inspection equipment firm Minebea Intec has expanded its UK operations and is now manufacturing from its UK and Ireland headquarters based on Birmingham Business Park.

Minebea Intec has expanded the current premises at The Crescent to facilitate the production of UK-built equipment supplied to the food, pharmaceutical and chemical industries.

Initially equipment will be produced for the UK and Ireland markets followed by export to Germany, France and then later in the year to Italy and Spain. The company also plans to export the equipment to other global markets.

Colin Maher, country manager for the UK, Ireland and Russia, said: "Many months of planning have gone into this and it was only due to our successful track record that the board of directors agreed without hesitancy.

"We have shown through organic growth what we can do in the UK and Ireland and this now gives us a real opportunity to take our growth to the next level.

"It also brings a new level of competitiveness and security for our customer in the face of Brexit and while other companies are downsizing their operations."

'MINEBEA INTEC'S EXPANSION IN THE BOROUGH CONFIRMS THE AREA IS A PRIME LOCATION FOR INNOVATIVE BUSINESSES'



Cllr Ian Courts, leader of Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council, added: "Minebea Intec's expansion to the borough confirms that the area is a prime location for international and innovative businesses.

"Solihull provides businesses with a prestigious working environment and an excellent location, at the heart of the country, to reach customers

and clients. Covid-19 hasn't changed everything; for businesses looking to expand, the basics are still important.

"Access to new talent, local business ecosystems, R&D capabilities, transportation linkages, and access to a global market will remain central parts of every expansion decision.

"The borough has a proven track record in developing businesses and helping them to grow and expand."

GLOBAL TELEMATICS PROVIDER SOLVING CUSTOMERS' NEW CHALLENGES

The last 12 months have been challenging for everyone. With strategic decision-making and clear lines of communication, the MiX Telematics team has completed successful projects



MiX Telematics is a leading global provider of fleet and mobile asset management solutions, delivered as SaaS, to 750,000 global subscribers in more than 120 countries.

The company provides solutions to improve the efficiency, safety, compliance and security within fleets of all sizes. Despite the challenges that the pandemic created, MiX Telematics Europe have continued to offer support to their customers throughout.

"We have a number of clients that have been directly affected by the pandemic. We have been delighted to support our customers in a number of ways during this time to ensure they still continue to receive the



same benefits from our software solutions as before," said Richard Adams, Sales Director at MiX Telematics Europe.

"Our team has been working from home and focusing on providing online support to our clients all the way through without disruption. We have hosted many online training and support sessions for customers. Many of our customers provide essential services. They have been using

our systems to ensure continuous visibility of drivers and vehicles, and to place the focus on risk reduction and driver safety. We are very proud of our whole team and their selfless attitude to looking after our customers' needs.

"During these unprecedented times, working from home has presented new challenges for many of us. We shifted to conducting daily meetings online using Zoom and Teams with emails

Richard Adams, Sales Director

and online chats as our main forms of communication. Additionally, we keep everyone motivated through internal communications that highlight staycations, recipes, competitions and lots of other useful updates.

"As a team, we upped our game and pushed forward with some innovative ideas to keep the business going and protect jobs. We've recruited eight talented new members who operate in different areas of the team.

"We were able to achieve our business outcomes using a sound risk management approach, revising processes and putting a business continuity plan in place."

"In the coming months, we anticipate seeing all of the positive changes we've implemented so far come to fruition and lead us to being comfortable with and successful within the new normal and hopefully, after June 21st, the world will start spinning faster once again, and we can return to our offices," added Sonia Dixon, HR Manager at MiX Europe.

■ If you want to track your vehicles' movements and activities while also increasing your fleet safety, contact us: info.eu@mixtelematics.com or visit www.mixtelematics.co.uk

OCCUPIER NEWS

CIRCYL KEEN TO COLLABORATE WITH BBP NEIGHBOURS

MD who believes 'in keeping things local' is aiming to work with fellow Park occupiers



The managing director of a 'straight talking' technology company has explained how he would like to collaborate with neighbours at Birmingham Business Park.

Based in the UBC Building located at 1310 Solihull Parkway, Circyl are experts in information management, data and analytics. The company opened a BBP office in the summer of 2019 and also has an office in Tamworth.

Building 'business focused applications' is part of the Circyl DNA and something the team has been successfully done across a range of industries for many years, explains MD Jason Betteridge.

"We strive to understand your company ambition and work tirelessly to develop an effective strategy," says Jason.

"We are a straight talking technology company specialising in business productivity and analytics utilising the Microsoft platform. So what does that mean? We help businesses find the information and documents they need so that they can work on them from anywhere on any device.

"We bring together data from separate systems around their business to enable them to get answers to questions so that informed business



decisions can be made. All very useful given the current challenges we face.

"Some of the products that we are specialists in working with are Office 365 – SharePoint, Teams, Power Apps, Power BI and Dynamics CRM."

A firm believer in keeping business local, Jason takes pride in working from the Business Park – a location that generates warm memories from throughout his working life.

"Birmingham Business Park has such an enviable list of fantastic companies located here. I am a strong believer in keeping business local if possible and I am sure there are many companies on the park we could help, they just need to know how to find us.

"We love the Business Park and the facilities and I have fond memories of being here 30 years ago when I took my first job working for a bank based at 1700 – uncanny that I look across the water to that building from my desk today!"



Jason Betteridge

NEW DEVELOPMENT NEWS



'L&G AND CANMOOR ARE DELIGHTED TO LAUNCH THIS NEW SPECULATIVELY CONSTRUCTED FOUR-UNIT DEVELOPMENT'



RADIAL PARK, PLOT 7000 NOW AVAILABLE



Radial Park, Plot 7000 is a new warehouse/industrial development designed to a high specification on Birmingham Business Park.

Situated on the west side of the Business Park, the development is close to Birmingham Airport, the NEC and the M42.

Radial Park, Plot 7000 neighbours over 150 BBP companies with a wide range of amenities,

lifestyle and environmental initiatives – adding value to the environment and work place.

Tom Hughes of Canmoor comments: "L&G and Canmoor are delighted to launch this new speculatively constructed four-unit development, where there is currently a lack of supply of good quality warehouse/ industrial product in the market."

RADIAL PARK, PLOT 7000 BENEFITS FROM THE FOLLOWING SPECIFICATION:

- 4 high-quality units from 18,287 – 57,082 sq ft
- Well specified two-storey offices
- 5MVA power available to site
- Major new arterial access off Bickenhill Parkway
- Established business park location
- 1.4 miles to J4 of the M6
- 3 miles to J6 of the M42



DONNA STOKES

British Heart Foundation
Fundraising Manager (Birmingham and Solihull)

TELL US ABOUT YOUR BUSINESS

The British Heart Foundation celebrates our 60th Birthday this year and we are extremely proud that our research has powered breakthroughs such as pacemakers, statins, stents and even the first heart transplant. We've come a long way but remain focussed on finding cures and developing treatments for heart and circulatory diseases, including stroke and vascular dementia.

Locally, there are over 118,000 people in Birmingham and Solihull living with heart and circulatory conditions. In Birmingham, we currently fund 30 different research projects, looking at improving treatments such as congenital heart diseases, blood clots and abnormal heart rhythms.

WHAT DO YOU DO?

As a charity, we do not receive government funding and rely on support from individuals and businesses to volunteer, donate or raise funds for us. My role is to engage with the community, encouraging people and businesses to support the charity. This involves raising awareness about our work, supporting our volunteers, ensuring people know how to access our services and combining health and wellbeing activities with fundraising activities.

HOW'S LIFE AT THE PARK?

Our Customer Service Centre (CSC) is based at BBP and handles emails, post and telephone calls from supporters and volunteers across the country. Life at the BBP is still a refreshing novelty to us as it's the best offices and working environment our staff have ever had. We are looking forward to a time when our vibrant team can all work together again and get to know our neighbours better.

YOUR MESSAGE TO A COMPANY THINKING OF MOVING HERE?

It's a great place to work with something for everyone. The environment and transport links help to keep existing staff happy and make it easier to attract new recruits. BBP is well established, extremely well managed and progressive with community activities and a warm friendly culture.



HOW TO ACCESS BHF SERVICES

Getting help if you or your family have a heart condition, or just want to keep your family healthy



At a time when the NHS is under enormous pressure, more people are turning to the British Heart Foundation (BHF) for support.

The charity's award-winning free Heart Matters magazine contains up to date information, inspiration and support for people living with heart and circulatory conditions, including addressing concerns about coronavirus.

Read it online or sign up via <https://www.bhf.org.uk/information-support/heart-matters-magazine> to automatically receive your online copy. It even includes recipes and tips for staying healthy and preventing health problems.

Heart patients and their families can also receive advice from specialist cardiac nurses through the BHF's Heart Helpline (Tel: 0300 330 3311 weekdays 9.00am to 5.00pm). Whether it's talking about medication and their side effects or understanding test results, there are here to help.

"As a charity, the BHF relies on support from individuals and companies. Unfortunately, our income has been devastated by the Covid-19 pandemic, and we have had to cut our funding of new life saving research in half," explains a spokesperson.

"However, we will continue funding research to find cures and improve treatments for heart diseases (including stroke and vascular dementia) and providing support to heart patients and their families. Further information about all our services can be found at www.bhf.org.uk"



£2,048

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QUIZ NIGHTS

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£350



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SOLIHULL



DONATIONS

30 BOXES OF
CHOCOLATES AT
CHRISTMAS

86 EASTER EGGS

70 POINSETTIAS



Age UK Solihull has been
Birmingham Business
Park's charity partner
from 2019 until the end
of 2021.

The partnership has
helped raise the charity's
profile with businesses
based on BBP, and many
of them have made
donations and supported
fundraising events.

We're proud to have
helped out...

56



JARS OF **BBP HONEY**
DONATED TO AGE UK
SOLIHULL'S CLIENTS

2



ALLOTMENTS

DEDICATED FOR THE
CHARITY'S CLIENTS TO USE

FOOD BANK

THROUGHOUT
2019/20 TO
DONATE FOOD
AND ESSENTIALS
TO AGE UK
SOLIHULL



HS2: ALL THE LATEST NEWS FROM THE INTERCHANGE AREA

What to expect near Birmingham Business Park in 2021



High Speed Two (HS2) is the new high speed railway for Britain.

When fully operational, nearly half of the UK population will be linked to 25 existing and new HS2 stations. HS2 will provide reliable connections, and more comfortable and faster journeys, giving people more choice about where they live and work. By releasing space on existing railway routes, HS2 will create more capacity for additional commuter and freight services, and, in turn, improve air quality and reduce carbon emissions. HS2 will also generate a huge boost to jobs, homes and growth in the cities and communities it services. Find out more about HS2 at: www.hs2.org.uk

Early works for HS2 are being carried out by Laing O'Rourke and J. Murphy & Sons, known as LM, and main works are being carried out by Balfour Beatty VINCI, known as BBV. Near Birmingham Business Park (BBP), HS2 is working around the A452, A45 and M42, which surround the site of the future HS2 Interchange Station. This area is referred to as the Interchange area.

WHAT TO EXPECT IN 2021

To ensure that the local road network is fit for purpose when Interchange Station is operational, LM will continue to remodel and improve the existing network and create new routes on HS2 land in 2021.

LM completed the first stage of these network improvements by safely installing four highway bridges in 2020. So far this year, LM has successfully connected some parts of the existing network to the new routes that have been created, and installed new pedestrian footpaths, kerb lines and central reservations in the area.

In 2021, traffic measures will remain in place on and around Northway Island, including the B4438 and A452, west of the M42. This will enable LM to continue to connect parts of the existing network to new routes, and begin to create a new T-junction. During this programme, access to and from the park will always be maintained either via Progress Way off the B4438, or off Northway Island.

From mid-2021, BBV will begin preparations to remodel and improve the remainder of the network east of the M42. This work will be mainly concentrated on HS2 land.

Upon completion, a new T-junction will replace Northway Island, where access to and from the park will remain. A 'longabout' will also replace a smaller roundabout outside the Holiday Inn Express NEC, en route to the National Exhibition Centre (NEC). In the future, you will be able to safely access all routes and businesses east of the motorway by using HS2's highways bridge over the M42.



HS2 teamed up with BBP to support the Around Again charity

BBP and HS2 join forces for local charity

Based in North Solihull, the Around Again charity tackles food poverty by bridging the gap between high street supermarkets and food banks. In 2020, BBP co-ordinated several successful park-wide collections to gather vital donations to keep Around Again well-stocked.

HS2 and its contractors working in the Interchange area teamed up with BBP to boost their Christmas 2020 collection for the charity. HS2, LM, BBV and the Interchange area's traffic management contractor, Traffix, collected approximately £500 worth of food, toiletries, household essentials and baby products. To bring a little Christmas cheer to those using the social supermarket, HS2 also donated advent calendars and cuddly toys.

An artist's impression of the future HS2 Interchange Station
Image courtesy HS2



STAY UP TO DATE WITH HS2'S WORKS

 Sign up for news updates about HS2 in Solihull at www.hs2insolihull.co.uk, including information on traffic measures, online events, community and business funding, and station development.

Do you have a question about HS2? You can get in touch with HS2 via the Helpdesk team on:

08081 434 434
hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk

This schedule is subject to change depending on site and weather conditions, and HS2 will keep you informed of any adjustments at: www.hs2insolihull.co.uk

HS2 LAUNCHES INTERACTIVE MAP

HS2 has launched a user-friendly interactive map to make it easier and simpler to keep up to date on current and upcoming works that are being carried out in the Interchange area. The map outlines:

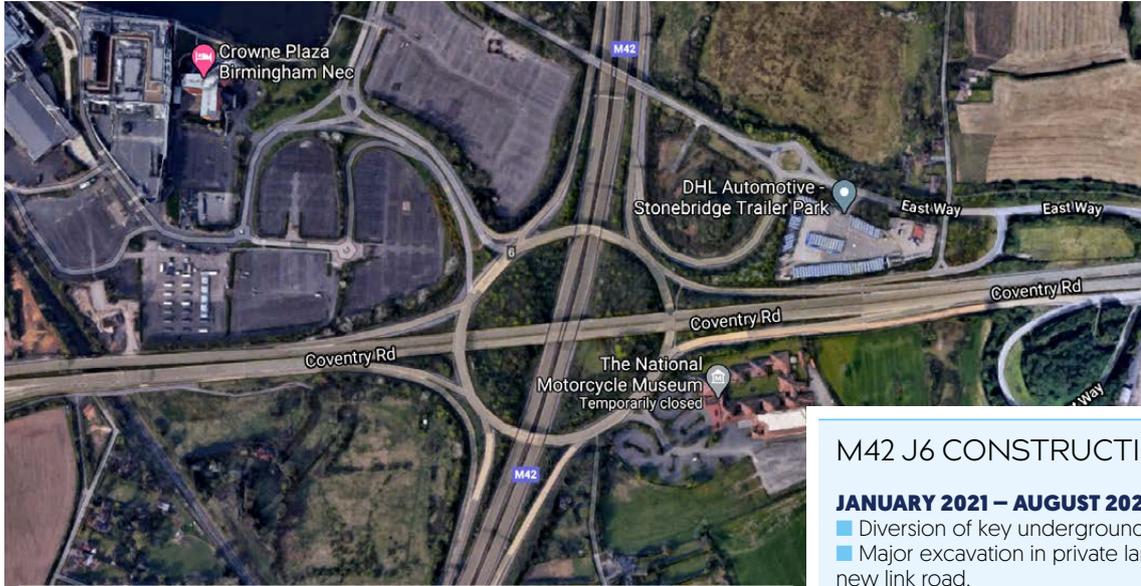
- the location and planned duration of the works
- which contractor is delivering the works
- what kind of activity they are doing

Access the map at: www.hs2.org.uk/in-your-area/map



An artist's impression of the future road network in the Interchange area
Image courtesy LM

LOCAL INFRASTRUCTURE SCHEMES



'WE HOLD REGULAR VIRTUAL DROP IN SESSIONS WITH BIRMINGHAM BUSINESS PARK CLIENTS TO PROVIDE THE LATEST UPDATES AND ANSWERS YOUR QUESTIONS'

M42 J6 UPGRADES MAKING PROGRESS

 Work is well underway on the £282 million M42 junction 6 improvement scheme.

Skanska Mott Macdonald (SMM) are the regional delivery partners (RDP) delivering the scheme on behalf of Highways England. Phase 1 of the scheme is now complete with work, which began in March 2020 and included ground investigations, construction of the main site compound near Clock Lane, and some work to allow detailed design to be finalised.

A spokesperson said: "The M42 team are committed to working closely

with our key stakeholders to provide timely progress updates, answer your questions and deliver advance notifications of our traffic management to allow you to plan your journey. We hold regular virtual drop in sessions with Birmingham Business Park clients to provide the latest updates and answers your questions so please check with reception for details on the next session."

You can find out more project information and sign up for updates by visiting: highwaysengland.co.uk/our-work/west-midlands/m42-junction-6/

M42 J6 CONSTRUCTION WORK

JANUARY 2021 – AUGUST 2021

- Diversion of key underground utilities.
- Major excavation in private land off the network for the new link road.
- Vegetation clearance and moving of soil on site.
- Warwickshire Gaelic Athletic Association (WGAA) pitch realignment work [subject to a successful planning application to Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council].

AUGUST 2021 – JANUARY 2022

- Utility diversions.
- Construction of the A45 footbridge and the Solihull road bridge away from out network to minimise the impact of the road network and the community.
- Construction of a new underpass and the widening of clock interchange.

FEBRUARY 2022 - AUGUST 2023

- Demolition of Solihull Road bridge and the installation of the new bridges.
- Construction of new Junction 5a slip roads.
- Gantry installations

AUGUST 2023 - AUGUST 2024

- Completion of the southbound off slip roads at Junction 5a.
- Construction of the free flow links at Junction 6.

Please note that all timings are approximate and are subject to change.

FUNDS IN PLACE FOR NEW TRAFFIC-EASING MEASURES

scheme forms part of wider plans to support growth in the area



The Urban Growth Company (UGC) is continuing to progress its ambitious plans

for the UK Central Hub in Solihull after securing an additional £460,000 of match funding from the Greater Birmingham and Solihull Local Enterprise Partnership's (GBSLEP) Local Growth Fund to help improve a key traffic roundabout.

The funding – alongside the £2.1 million previously awarded by the West Midlands Combined Authority in 2019 – will be used to design an additional traffic-easing measure to a roundabout currently located at the edge of the NEC campus. The introduction of a new cut-through will ease current traffic flow and ensure that existing infrastructure is able to support future planned growth associated with the arrival of HS2 and the new development at the nearby Arden Cross site.

The roundabout improvement scheme – scheduled to be completed by June 2022 – is pre-emptive in anticipation of planned growth, minimising disruption,

delivering cost savings and future-proofing the area for continuing development.

The UGC-led scheme will create a cut-through that allows traffic travelling north to continue straight-on without having to enter the roundabout. The aim is to ease traffic leaving the NEC at Northway (the arm after the A452) and prevent it backing up on the A452.

Sue Barrett, Commercial & Contracts Director at the UGC, said: “We are delighted to have received this funding boost from the LEP which is about so much more than a change to a roundabout design.

“Smaller, individual improvement schemes like this make significant contributions to our broader, strategic vision for The Hub. They serve as critical enablers for growth by ensuring the area continues to enjoy unrivalled

road, rail and air connectivity. Our approach to future-proof The Hub also creates the confidence needed to attract future investment that will enable the major economic boost we plan to deliver in terms of jobs and homes.

“It’s also important that we look to a post-Covid future and ensure that our infrastructure supports the recovery of the major stakeholders across The Hub – the NEC and Birmingham Airport will be looking to ramp up their businesses again as soon as possible and this sort of project will help them to do that.”

Michael Steventon, non-executive board director at GBSLEP, said: “Investing in infrastructure is an integral part of our work as it opens up access to businesses, workers, visitors and people living in the area. The longabout project will ensure traffic will keep flowing through Solihull and Birmingham –

an important commuter corridor with its close proximity to the NEC and Birmingham Airport.

“Furthermore, with the development of HS2 and the new Interchange Station, there is great potential for economic development in the area. We continue to work with our partners in the public and private sectors to create opportunities for inclusive economic growth as we look towards a post-Covid recovery.”

Councillor Ian Courts, Leader of Solihull Council, said: “Congratulations to the UGC and our transport team for securing the funds as well as coming up with a solution to this complex project.

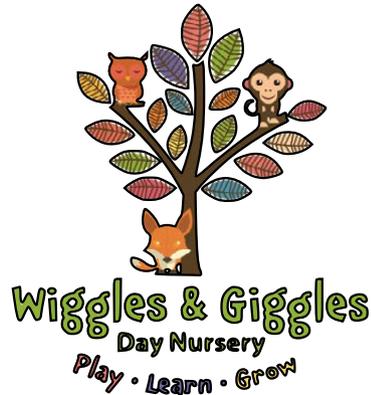
“Working with UGC and other partners, we will continue to maximise the economic benefit of HS2 coming to Solihull. This funding will mean we can ensure easy access to The Hub and improved traffic flow in the area.”

The current roundabout will be elongated to form a ‘longabout’ as part of HS2’s local highways work, while the UGC intervention will create an additional northbound cut-through

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